

Newsletter

for Winston-Salem Northern Beltway



October 2004 TIP Nos. R-2247, U-2579, and U-2579A

Environmental Document Completed

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) recently approved the Supplemental Final Environmental Impact Statement (SFEIS) and Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS) for the Winston-Salem Northern Beltway project.

The SFEIS/SDEIS for the Northern Beltway project is available for review by the public. To view the document, you can:

- Download a copy from NCDOT's website (www.ncdot.org/projects/wsnb)
- Request a personal copy on CD by contacting Larry Meisner by telephone at (919) 677-2079 or by email at larry.meisner@kimley-horn.com
- Visit one of the various public review locations listed on the back of this newsletter

Public Workshops and Hearings Scheduled

Two workshops and three public hearings are scheduled during November for the Northern Beltway projects as follows:

- **Monday, November 8**, 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM – Pre-Hearing Workshop at Anderson Conference Center at Winston-Salem State University.
- **Tuesday, November 9**, 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM – Pre-Hearing Workshop at Home & Garden Building of the Dixie Classic Fairgrounds.
- **Tuesday, November 16**, 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM – Open House Public Hearing for the Western Section (Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Project R-2247) at the Anderson Conference Center at Winston-Salem State University.
- **Wednesday, November 17**, 7:00 PM – Formal Design Public Hearing for Eastern Section (TIP Project U-2579) at the Anderson Conference Center at Winston-Salem State University. Staff will be available to answer questions between 4:00 PM and 6:00 PM.
- **Thursday, December 2**, 7:00 PM – Formal Corridor Public Hearing for Eastern Section Extension (TIP Project U-2579A) at the Benton Convention Center. Staff will be available to answer questions between 4:00 PM and 6:00 PM.

The Pre-Hearing Workshops are for all sections of the Beltway. At these informal drop-in sessions, citizens can:

- Learn more about the project
- Review project maps
- Ask informal questions
- Provide comments to officials

The open house public hearing will be in a workshop format, with the project team available for individual discussion and to answer questions. Citizens also will have the opportunity to submit written statements or to leave verbal messages with a recorder.

The formal public hearings will include introductions and descriptions of the project by NCDOT followed by opportunities for citizens to make statements.

To Submit Comments

Comments on this project can be:

- Mailed to NCDOT
- Submitted in writing at any of the hearings or workshops
- Presented verbally at the public hearings

Oral and written comments carry equal weight and will become part of the official hearing record. Written comments should be received by January 5, 2005.

Please mail written comments to:

Mr. Carl Goode, P.E., Manager
Office of Human Environment
North Carolina DOT
1583 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1583

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To Speak at a Hearing

Citizens wishing to speak at either of the formal public hearings can register at the pre-hearing workshops, at the hearing, or by calling Mr. Goode at (919) 715-1515. Verbal comments will be limited to four minutes per person; however, additional comments may be offered after all registered participants have spoken.

NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services for disabled persons who wish to participate in the hearings in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. To receive special services, please contact Mr. Goode at the address or phone number provided above, or by fax at (919) 715-1501 to provide adequate notice prior to the date of the hearings so arrangements can be made.

Design vs. Corridor Hearings

Preferred Alternatives were previously selected for the Eastern Section (from US 421/I-40 Business to US 52) and the Western Section (from US 52 to US 158). The Preferred Alternative for both sections is a freeway to be constructed on a new location. The public will have the opportunity to comment on the design features of the Preferred Alternatives for the Eastern and Western Sections at the design hearings.

A Preferred Alternative has not been selected for the Eastern Section Extension (from US 311 to US 421/I-40 Business east of Winston-Salem). The locations of each of the detailed study alternatives will be available for review by the public at the corridor hearing. The public comments on the detailed study alterna-

tives will be used in selecting the Preferred Alternative, which will be presented in the next environmental document to be released. NCDOT plans to announce the selection of the Preferred Alternative in early 2005.

What's Next?

Comments received from the public will be seriously considered by NCDOT, FHWA, and state and federal regulatory and environmental resource agencies in the selection of the Least Environmentally Damaging Practical Alternative (LEDPA) for the Eastern Section Extension. Following identification of the LEDPA, NCDOT will select the Preferred Alternative. The subsequent environmental document will contain responses to public comments, as well as a discussion of the process used to select the Preferred Alternative for the Eastern Section Extension. The next environmental document is anticipated to be approved in July 2005, with a Record of Decision (which documents the Federal Highway Administration's decision to build a particular alternative) anticipated in Fall 2005.

Project Website

Access to information on the Winston-Salem Northern Beltway projects can be found at NCDOT's new project website (www.ncdot.org/projects/wsnb). At this site, you will find past newsletters, maps, project information, and schedules, as well as ways to contact the project team, get involved, and have your comments heard.

Project Description

The Winston-Salem Northern Beltway is proposed to loop around the west, north, and east sides of Winston-Salem from US 158 west of the city to US 311 east of the city, crossing US 52 north of downtown. This new highway will improve safety, accommodate future growth in Forsyth County, ease congestion on local roads, and provide a routing for Interstate 74 through Winston-Salem. The road will be a freeway, meaning it will have no traffic signals or driveways, and access will be provided at interchanges with select roads only.

The Winston-Salem Northern Beltway originally began as three separate projects. Since these projects began at different times, each section of the beltway has reached a different stage in the development process. The Western Section's planning process started first and a Preferred Alternative was selected in 1993. The Eastern Section's process started several years later, and a Preferred Alternative was selected in 1996. There are six detailed study alternatives under consideration for the Eastern Section Extension, each of which has an optional interchange at Kernersville Road. A Preferred Alternative for the Eastern Section Extension will be selected following the public hearing and the receipt of public and agency comments. The selection of the Preferred Alternative for the Eastern Section Extension will be discussed in the next environmental document.

Winston-Salem Northern Beltway

Project R-2247, Project U-2579, and Project U-2579A



Legend

★ Hearing or Meeting Location

— Railroad

— County Line

— Freeway/Expressway

— Major Thoroughfare

— Minor Thoroughfare

— Project U-2579 (Eastern Section) Preferred Alternative

— Project R-2247 (Western Section) Preferred Alternative

— Project U-2579A (Eastern Section Extension)

— Detailed Study Alternatives

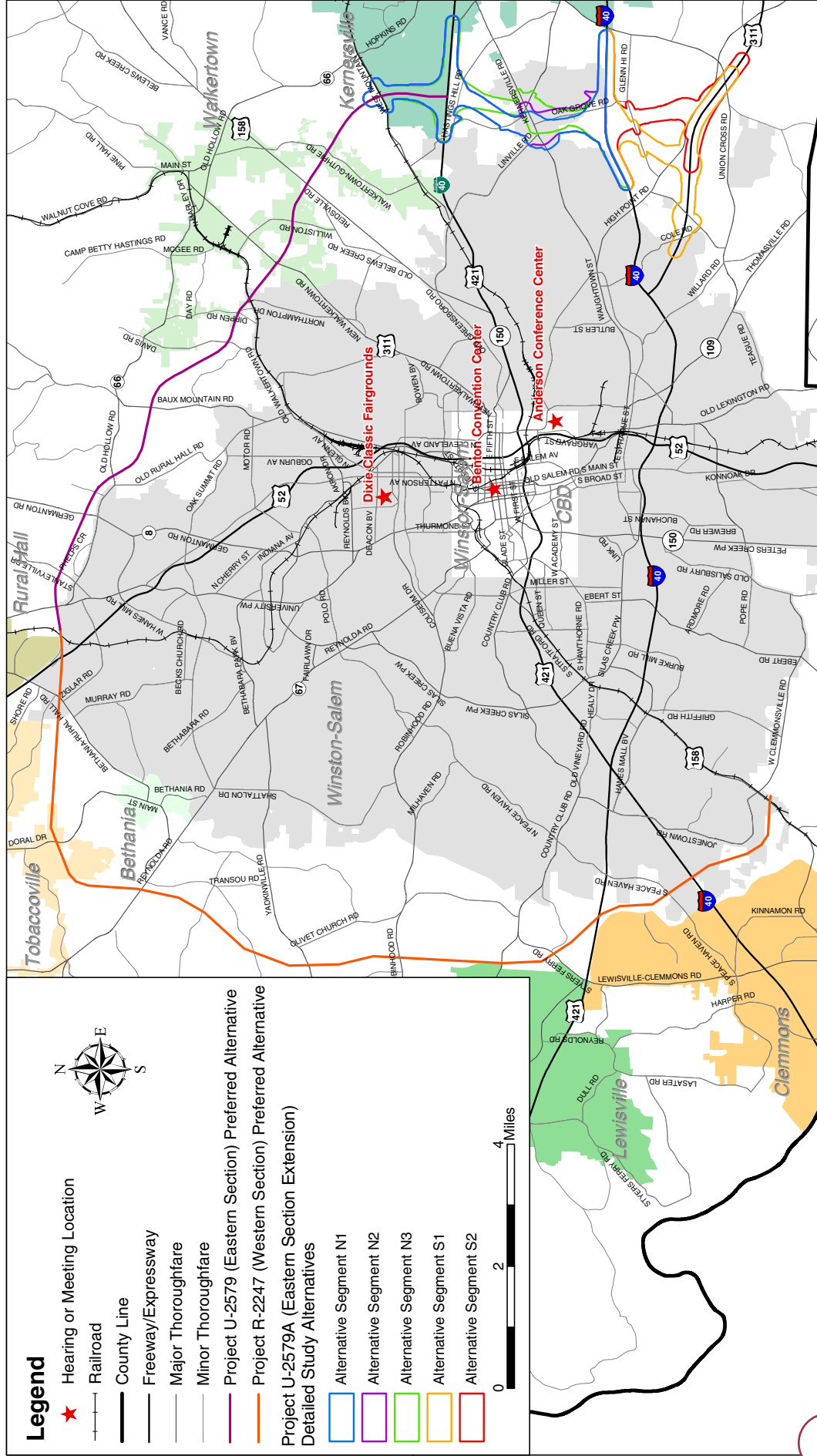
— Alternative Segment N1

— Alternative Segment N2

— Alternative Segment N3

— Alternative Segment S1

— Alternative Segment S2



Directions to Hearings and Pre-Hearing Workshops

Anderson Conference Center at Winston-Salem State University

601 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Winston-Salem

- From US 52, use Exit 108C to Stadium Drive and turn left. Turn right onto Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. The Anderson Conference Center is on the right.
- From I-40, exit onto US 52 north and follow directions from US 52 shown above.
- From I-40 Business/US 421, exit onto US 52 south and follow directions from US 52 shown above.

Dixie Classic Fairgrounds Home & Garden Building

421 West 27th St, Winston-Salem

- From I-40 Business, take the Cherry Street exit and follow the signs to the Fairgrounds/Coliseum area.
- From US 52, take the Akron Drive exit and follow the signs for the Fairgrounds/Coliseum area.

Benton Convention Center

301 West Fifth St, Winston-Salem

- Take US-52 North to downtown Winston-Salem. Take Exit 110A/ Third, Fourth, Fifth Streets. Go to the Fifth Street stoplight and turn left onto Fifth Street. Stay on Fifth Street until you reach Cherry Street. The Convention Center will be on the right-hand corner of Fifth and Cherry Streets, across from the Adam's Mark Hotel.
- From I-40, exit onto US 52 north and follow directions from US 52 shown above.
- If you park in any of the public parking garages, pick up a parking validation pass at the sign-in table so that you will not need to pay.

Summary Impact Table*

Project R-2247 and Project U-2579 Preferred Alternatives

PLUS

Project U-2579A Detailed Study Alternatives
With (Without) Kernersville Road Interchange

Environmental Issue	N1-S1	N1-S2	N2-S1	N2-S2	N3-S1	N3-S2
Length (miles)	34.2	34.4	34.2	34.4	34.1	34.3
Estimated Costs (millions \$)	816.4 (805.0)	816.5 (804.1)	814.2 (809.0)	821.1 (818.9)	796.4 (785.8)	814.4 (806.7)
Residences Requiring Relocation ¹	771 (749)	807 (785)	728 (725)	795 (792)	734 (724)	801 (791)
Businesses Requiring Relocation ¹	41 (27)	38 (25)	42 (33)	40 (31)	37 (26)	35 (24)
Schools Impacted	1	1	1	1	0	0
Parks and Recreational Facilities Impacted	0	0	0	0	0	0
Churches and Cemeteries Impacted	5	6	5	6	5	6
Number of Historic Resources Affected	5	5	5	5	5	5
Number of Impacted Noise Receptors (with mitigation in place)	755 (768)	721 (730)	821 (809)	742 (730)	792 (786)	713 (707)
Number of Potentially Impacted Hazardous Materials Sites	19 (16)	19 (16)	17 (15)	17 (15)	22 (17)	22 (17)
Number of Stream Crossings	114	114	116	116	118	118
Number of Bridges Over Streams	20	20	20	20	20	20
Number of Crossings with Major Culverts (> 72 inches in diameter)	32	34	32	34	31	33
Floodplains/Floodways (number of crossings)	21	21	21	21	21	21
Number of Crossings Requiring Floodway Modification	13	13	13	13	13	13
Acres of Wetlands Impacted	7.5	7.1	7.6	7.3	7.8	7.4
Protected Species Impacted	No Effect	No Effect	No Effect	No Effect	No Effect	No Effect

* This is an abbreviated table. A detailed table of impacts is found in the environmental document.

¹ Information of the right-of-way acquisition process and the Relocation Assistance Program will be available at the workshops and hearings.

Questions, comments, and requests for additional information should be directed to:

All Sections of the Beltway

Ms. Missy Dickens, P.E.

North Carolina DOT
1548 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1548
Phone: (919) 733-7844 ext 218
Email: mdickens@dot.state.nc.us

Western Section and Combined
Environmental Document

Ms. Jill Gurak, P.E.

PBS&J
1616 East Millbrook Road
Raleigh, NC 27609
Phone: (919) 876-6888
Email: jsgurak@pbsj.com

Eastern Section and Eastern Section
Extension

Mr. Larry Meisner, P.E., AICP

Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.
P.O. Box 33068
Raleigh, NC 27636
Phone: (919) 677-2079
Email: larry.meisner@kimley-horn.com

Newsletter

for Winston-Salem Northern Beltway

c/o Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.
P.O. Box 33068
Raleigh, NC 27636

To View Maps and the Environmental Document

A copy of the maps showing the current designs for the Western and Eastern Section Preferred Alternatives and the alternative locations for the Eastern Section Extension, and a copy of the SFEIS/SDEIS are available for public review at the following locations:

NCDOT Division 9 Office

375 Silas Creek Parkway, Winston-Salem

Winston-Salem Dept. of Transportation

City Hall South
100 East First Street, Room 307

A copy of the SFEIS/SDEIS is available for public review at the following Forsyth County Library Branches:

Central Library, 660 West Fifth Street, Winston-Salem

Kernersville Branch, 130 E. Mountain Street, Kernersville

Carver School Road Branch, 4915 Lansing Drive, Winston-Salem

Lewisville Branch, Lewisville Plaza Shopping Center, Lewisville

Reynolda Manor Branch, 2839 Fairlawn Drive, Winston-Salem

Rural Hall Branch, 7125 Broad Street, Rural Hall

Walkertown Branch, 2969 Main St, Walkertown

<http://www.ncdot.org/projects/wsnb>